

Message Text

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ACTION ICAE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7633

INFO AMEMBASSY HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SUVA 1229

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINR, FJ

SUBJECT: FIJIAN ATTENDANCE AT CUBAN YOUTH FESTIVAL

1. NEWS THAT FIVE YOUTH LEADERS FROM FIJI WOULD BE ATTENDING WORLD FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH IN HAVANA PROVOKED AN OUT-CRY IN THE PRESS WITH THE FIJI SUN SUGGESTING THAT FESTIVAL WAS IN FACT A COVER FOR TRAINING POLITICAL TERRORISTS. ATTENDEES WILL BE SPONSORED BY THE FIJI NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL (FNYC) WHICH RECEIVES A YEARLY STIPEND FROM GOF, BUT MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS WAS QUICK TO DENY GOVT SELECTION OF FIJIAN DELEGATION OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR TRAVEL; FNYC DIRECTOR LATER ANNOUNCED THAT COSTS WERE BEING BORN BY WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, LABOR MINISTER RATU DAVID TONGANIVALU CONFIRMED THAT GOF HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH SELECTION OR SPONSORSHIP OF DELEGATION AND WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH ATTENDANCE. RATU DAVID ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT USG LET GOF KNOW HOW FIJIANS CONDUCTED THEMSELVES AT CONFERENCE IF SUCH INFORMATION COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY RATU DAVID IF SUCH CAN BE DEVELOPED. FIJI DELEGATION INCLUDES SAMSON RAMAN (FNYC), INIA TUI (SEVENTH-CONFIDENTIAL

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DAY ADVENTIST YOUTH GROUP), BALLU KHAN (UNIV OF SOUTH PACIFIC STUDENTS' ASSOC), SERA BROWN (DUDLEY CHURCH METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP) AND RAFIQUE MINIF (FIJI MUSLIM YOUTH ORG). PRESS HAS ALSO SAID AMELIA ROKOTUIVUNA, A KNOWN LEFTIST AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE FIJI YWCA, WILL ATTEND.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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